(b) whether Government have given any direction to the Food Corporation of India regarding direct purchase of millet from farmers at the support price; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The Government had announced the Price Policy for Kharif Crops of 2004-05 season, including millets, on 10th August, 2004. Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for millets, namely, Bajra and Jowar have been fixed at Rs. 515 per qunital each compared to Rs. 505 per quintal each fixed for 2003-04 season.

(b) and (c) Procurement of coarse grains, including Bajra and Jowar, from farmers under price support operations is presently being entirely undertaken by the State Governments and their Agencies.

Suicides in Maharashtra

480. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that so many farmers have committed suicide in Maharashtra recently in the month of January and February, 2005;

(b) if so, the details thereof, district-wise;

(c) whether Government have provided any incentives to their families; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and other requisite steps being taken by Government to check the farmers' suicide?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of House.

Revival of closed fertilizer units

†481. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.